

For further information
Contact the
Public Information Office
Tele: 573/522-1118
Direct FAX: 573/751-4099
P.O. Box 236
Jefferson City MO 65102



For Immediate Release...

Corrections News

July 11, 2008

**The Missouri
Department of
Corrections
celebrates
Probation and
Parole Week from
July 13-19.**

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**"For several years
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Fewer new crimes
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Probation and Parole Board
Chairman Steve Long

Department of Corrections Celebrates Probation and Parole Week

Noting the agency's success in lowering recidivism rates in 2007, the Missouri Department of Corrections celebrates Probation and Parole Week from July 13-19. The event is observed annually by the American Probation and Parole Association (APPA).

"For several years now, we have seen a lower rate of law violations among those we supervise," Probation and Parole (P&P) Board Chairman Steve Long said. "Fewer new crimes mean fewer new victims and reduced costs to the community. Our officers work very hard, and have responded to the Governor's call for efficiency."

The APPA's theme this year is "Making your mark on the community." Missouri P&P has 54 field districts statewide, 11 field satellite offices, 22 institutional parole offices, three Community Supervision Centers in Farmington, St. Joseph and Hannibal and Community Release Centers in St. Louis and Kansas City. The agency has about 1,100 officers who supervise close to 71,000 probationers and parolees in the field, and approximately 100 officers that work with almost 30,000 offenders in institutions on release plans and parole decisions.

The percentage of the P&P caseload incarcerated for law violations decreased from 7.8 percent in FY 2006 to 7.2 percent in FY 2007. Chairman Long attributes that to evidence-based practices both in the field and institution. In FY 2007, offenders who successfully completed electronic monitoring had a 28 percent lower recidivism rate than similar offenders who didn't participate. Offenders who successfully completed a residential facility had a 21 percent lower recidivism rate than similar offenders who didn't participate, and offenders who successfully completed intensive substance abuse programs like TREND in Kansas City and CPR in St. Louis had a 51 percent lower recidivism rate than similar offenders who didn't participate.

Missouri Probation and Parole has helped to improve public safety by collecting 14,500 DNA samples since July 2007. Those collections have aided in 258 criminal investigations during the past year. P&P has collected approximately 89,500 DNA samples from offenders since January 2005. P&P officers held offenders accountable to complete restorative justice orders in FY 2007, resulting in offenders performing 300,620 hours of community service and paying \$10,938,288 in restitution back to victims. These accomplishments contribute to

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improved public safety and justice for victims in Missouri and are the result of P&P staff working more successfully with partners in criminal justice and treatment across the state.

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Please find below three public service announcements the Missouri Department of Corrections put together to commemorate Probation, Parole and Community Supervision Week, July 13-19. We encourage the use of these public service announcements throughout the week at your convenience and as they fit into your daily programming. Thank you for your time and consideration.

The MO Division of Probation & Parole has helped to improve public safety during the past year by:

Collecting 14,500 DNA samples since July 2007. Those collections have aided in 258 criminal investigations this past year.

[Probation and Parole-Making Our Mark in the Community.](#)

The MO Division of Probation & Parole has helped to improve public safety during the past year by:

Monitoring offender compliance in paying approximately \$11 million in restitution to victims and offenders performing over 300,000 hours of community service work.

[Probation and Parole-Making Our Mark in the Community.](#)

The MO Division of Probation & Parole has helped to improve public safety during the past year by:

Decreasing criminal activity among supervised offenders. Fewer new crimes mean fewer new victims and reduced cost to the community. This reduction in crime over a three year period is due in part to the efforts of our P&P staff.

[Probation and Parole-Making Our Mark in the Community.](#)